



1997 SENATE BILL 121

March 13, 1997 - Introduced by Senators JAUCH, HUELSMAN, BRESKE, WIRCH, PANZER, DARLING, SCHULTZ, BUETTNER and WELCH, cosponsored by Representatives BOYLE, URBAN, ALBERS, HUBER, PLALE, GREEN, RYBA, LAZICH, GRONEMUS, GROTHMAN, MUSSER, F. LASEE, ZIEGELBAUER and SERATTI. Referred to Committee on Judiciary, Campaign Finance Reform and Consumer Affairs.

1 AN ACT *to create* 973.20 (5) (e) of the statutes; **relating to:** interest payments
2 under a restitution order.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, whenever a court imposes a sentence or orders probation for any crime, the court must order the defendant to make restitution payments to crime victims unless the court finds a substantial reason not to do so. The restitution law has various general and specific provisions for the court to use to determine what the restitution order may include. The order may not include a requirement for the defendant to pay interest on unpaid amounts of restitution. This bill permits the court to order the defendant to pay interest on unpaid restitution as computed from the date of the offense. Under the bill, the interest rate on unpaid restitution is equal to the average rate for 6-month U.S. treasury bills during the calendar year preceding the year in which the restitution order is made, as certified to the director of state courts by the state treasurer on the first business day in January of each year.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 SECTION 1. 973.20 (5) (e) of the statutes is created to read:

